MEMORIAL OR EVERGREEN ROSES---PLANT AUTUMN BULBS NOW

The Wichuraiana roses are of Japanese origin, but many new varieties have been originated in America. They are literally tea roses, with climbing or trailing habit, and are hardy everywhere in this country. The flowering season is June and July.

The foliage is beautiful, shining, waxlike and is so ornamental as to be useful all the season for working in bouquets, vases and baskets. It seems proof against all insects and remains on the plants until winter, making them almost evergreen.

Left to themselves the vines creep along the ground as closely as an ivy. They are excellent for trailing over graves, hence they are called "memorial" roses. Some varieties in a single season will send out shoots fifteen feet long. Once planted they take care of themselves.

By pruning the Wichuraiana roses they can be kept back in bush form. The writer has a lot kept cut back to about three feet high. The bushes are probably six feet in diameter and require pruning twice or three times a year to keep them in this form.

There are a number of varieties. Evergreen Gem is one of the best. The buds are of good form, of buff color, changing to white as they open; very double. The foliage is dense and of a nice bronze green.

Gardenia produces well shaped buds of bright yellow, changing to cream with the opening of the double flowers.

Triumph has double white sweet scented flowers produced in clusters. Universal Favorite is a double of rose color.

Mrs. M. H. Walsh has large glossy foliage and double flowers of pure white.

There are many other good new varieties, including Crimson Roamer, crimson red; Farquhar, clusters of double bright pink flowers; Jersey Beauty, pale yellow; John Burton, very double, delicate peach.

These roses may be planted in the autumn or spring.

NEW ROSE PREMIER.

The new rose Premier is a cross between Ophelia and Mrs. Charles Russell, hybrid teas. It has the stiff, thornless stem and quick, free growths of Ophelia, with ample foliage, approaching Ulrich Brunner or American Beauty in arrangement and size of leafage.

The habit is perfect for a forcing rose; the breaks come quickly and are of fine length, every one producing a flower, even the shorter stems giving a quantity of bloom.

The flowers are of Russell type and hold a clear, pure shade of rose pink throughout the year—lighter in summer, deep rose pink in cooler weather. It is delightfully fragrant.

Its freedom of bloom and quick succession of crops make this a most productive forcing variety.

The Premier will be offered for sale early next year.

ROSES WILL BE SCARCE.

Roses will be scarce next spring and late purchasers may not be able to obtain them at any price. None were imported this year from England, Holland or France, and none can be imported next year, making America for the first time in years dependent entirely upon its own production, and rose growers are almost certain to be short of plants next spring.

Many roses may be safely planted now, and as the price will likely be higher in the spring there will be a decided gain by autumn planting.

Nurserymen may be consulted as to desirable varieties for different localities and soils.

SOME OLD FAVORITE APPLES.

Years ago there were a number of green skinned apples, spicy, juicy, of fine flavor and they were popular for home use. To-day it is difficult to find them.

In planting home orchards it will pay to look up these old favorites and include one or more of them.

The Winter Golden Sweet is a golden yellow apple of good size. It is very productive, but drops freely from the tree. The flesh is tender, sweet and juicy, making it an excellent dessert apple. It ripens in the autumn, and its season is October and November. In "The Apples of New York," by Beach, Booth & Taylor, it is credited as being "good to very good," and as being the same variety as Baker Sweet.

Winter Chandler, also called Chandler, is another variety of greenish yellow that seems to be passing. The flesh is tender, juicy, the seeds and the core small. This also is an early apple for autumn to early winter. The trees are very productive.

Winter Pearmin, which is the same as McAfee, was frequently found years ago in western New York, where the tree was a reliable bearer. The color of the fruit is a greenish yellow, faintly tinged with red. The flesh is yellowish, tender, juicy and the flavor is good. The season is from October to February.

Winter Sweet Paradise bears dull green fruit, flushed with brownish red. It is sweet and juicy, and the season is early winter and midwinter. The tree is a vigorous grower, but it is slow in coming into bearing.

Other green varieties, more generally grown, include:

Tolman Sweet, a good sweet yellow apple, though it does not keep long. About the last of December, in ordinary storage, it will be exhausted. The tree is long lived and hardy. The flesh is white, moderately fine and sweet. It is classed as "good to very good" by the New York State Horticulturist.

Swarr is a yellow apple of rich flavor, juicy, very mild sub-acid, and spicy. It is classed as "good to best" in "The Apples of New York."

One of the best apples for early winter, of the green class, is Monmouth. It is rather an uncertain keeper, but it is excellent for late autumn and early winter use. The tree is hardy and long lived, comes into bearing young and is a reliable cropper. The flesh is white, crisp, tender, juicy and slightly sweet. It is decidedly aromatic and is one of the best of this class for the home orchard. The yellow and green Newtowns are favorites with many.

It is a good plan to visit fairs in the autumn and see exhibits of apples, talk with the growers and if possible taste the fruit before planting trees in the home orchard. Then when the trees fruit the owner will not be disappointed.

BULBS HAVE BEEN PLANTED AT THIS SEASON FOR CENTURIES.

John Parkinson, in his "Paradisi in Sole, Paradisus Terrestris," published in 1629, gives descriptions of many varieties of narcissi, with illustrations including novel double flowering and other varieties that would be interesting if they could be obtained at this late date.

The crown imperial, the mountain lily, lily rubrum and other lilies are described; fritillarias and a long list of tulips; hyacinths with flowers of curious forms and shapes, some double but not equal to the flowers that can be grown to-day. It seems strange that in nearly 300 years greater improvements have not been made. Colchiums were popular at that time, and crocuses quite similar to the crocus of to-day.

The illustrations of iris show that these flowers were equal in size to many of our present varieties and their culture was well understood. It is interesting to think that when we are planting fall bulbs gardeners nearly three centuries ago were doing the same thing at the same season.

NATHAN R. GRAVES—CHARLES G. ROEBLING.

Two well known flower lovers have passed away recently. Nathan R. Graves of Rochester, widely known as a photographer of horticultural subjects. His photographs were used by the leading horticultural publications and for illustrating practically all of the seedsmen's and nurserymen's catalogues. Mr. Graves loved plants and discovered several new varieties that had been overlooked by gardeners and botanists. His reputation was world-wide and his contribution of photographs to American horticulture are of priceless value to this great industry. His passing is an irreparable loss.

Charles G. Roebling of Trenton, N. J., became interested in horticulture in the early '80s as a relaxation from business cares, specializing in orchids. He gathered a collection of orchids which was recognized as one of the best in America, requiring about 12,000 square feet of glass. He was a successful hybridist and many of his hybrids found their way into commerce. He was an exhibitor at the most important flower shows and won many prizes. Every year the town of Roebling, which he founded, held a flower show of importance, and he was both patron and leading spirit.

CHRYSANTHEMUM EXHIBITION.

November 6 to 8 there will be an exhibition of chrysanthemums by the American Institute and the Chrysanthemum Society of America in the Engineering Building, 33 West Thirty-ninth street.

The dahlia exhibition in September was beautiful; thousands of varieties were exhibited, and the chrysanthemum show will probably be larger than the dahlia show.

Every New Yorker who loves flowers should see these shows. There is no charge for admission.

MAKING COUNTRY HOMES ATTRACTIVE.

On a motor trip recently from Asbury Park to Freehold and Matawan, N. J., on the particular roads travelled there were many good substantial country houses, but scarcely one of them was attractive and homelike as it might have been. This was particularly noticeable, as some well laid out and well kept places had been passed near Asbury Park.

Farmers just now have plenty of troubles; they are short of help and much of the little help they are able to obtain is poor and unreliable. The women of the family are working like beavers; in fact the women on many of the farms along the roadside were helping the men in addition to doing their housework. The plucky spirit of the women is unconquerable.

Where there is a successful farm generally, if the real truth can be arrived at, very much of the credit will be due to the spirit of a woman, who in times of discouragement insists on another and greater effort and who sees that the men are up and doing daily.

If women knew how cheaply and with what little labor the home grounds could be improved they would see that the men made the necessary effort, or more likely would themselves do the work.

A house in the country, standing out prominently, surrounded only by broad fields, swept by the blasts of winter winds and consumed by the fire of the summer sun, with the barns and outbuildings as the only piece of landscape, is surely a lonesome place, to be avoided. There is no comfort there. The passing traveller is impressed with a sigh of gratitude that he is not obliged to live there. How can there be a love for such a home?

Surely that is a place that no one will care to buy unless it is sold at a very low price.

Compare the above with an actual case showing the desirability of making the home attractive from the money standpoint alone. The work was not done with the idea of making money, but for the satisfaction of having a comfortable home.

A farm about such as described was purchased for a low price. The soil was good, the location good, but the farmer did not believe in doing any more work than was necessary. His wife cultivated the vegetable garden or there would have been no vegetables for the table.

The farm consisted of about thirty-five acres. The yard about the house was filled with pig weeds, burdocks, tin cans and rubbish. The fences all needed repairs.

Every nook and corner was cleaned up, the burdocks destroyed about the yard and the pig weeds were cut down and grass grew. It was not a fine lawn, but it was neat.

The weeds were kept down over the whole place and along the roadside. It was plain that a thrifty fellow lived there.

Cherry, apple, pear, peach and plum trees were planted. Quinces, grape vines and small fruits such as raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries and strawberries were planted. A rhubarb and an asparagus bed were made. English walnuts, chestnuts, hickory, black walnut and butternuts were planted. Gradually attractive shade trees were set about the house. A rose bed was made and there were flower gardens, which the women took care of. All these expenses were figured in as living expenses.

The work was hard and the hours long, but it was a happy home. The evergreens were planted so as to cut off the view of the barns from the house and to check the cold blasts of the wintry winds.

Five years after the work of making a home of the old farm, a city family passed in their automobile. They had been talking about a country home. "There's just the place," the wife declared. They inquired the price and surprised the owner by taking it at more than $5,000 advance over the price he had paid. Thus his work paid him a fair yearly profit which only could have been made by making the most of the possibilities.

Men are inclined to think they have no time except for their regular daily work, but "where there is a will there is a way." If it can be found at the Public Library get the "Life of a Scotch Naturalist" by Samuel Smiles and see what Thomas Edward, a poor shoemaker, accomplished, after spending his full day, every day, at his bench, in order to support his large family. He was finally elected an associate of the Linnean Society, one of the highest honors that science could confer upon him. His great work was all oone after long hours of toil, that ordinary men were content to sit down and rest after, but Edward made every minute count.

There is much waste time on the farm, busy as the farmers are, that might be turned to profit, and improving the home grounds is one good way to utilize every spare moment.

ROSE PREMIER

PROFIT IN BLACK WALNUT.

A black walnut tree once planted will take care of itself. It needs no pruning or spraying. Furthermore, the product is not perishable and can be kept and shipped when and where the prices are the highest. In twenty-five years the tree is easily worth $200 to $400 for timber alone. With the strong interest in the airplane industry and the great boom bound to follow at the conclusion of this present war, the planter of black walnuts will reap a fortune, for this wood is absolutely essential. For the practical side, a well cared for orchard of black walnuts at the age of ten years is estimated to give a gross return of $200 and a net yield of 50 per cent. of this. From that time on the production increases by leaps and bounds.

The black walnut is a beautiful tree as well as a productive one and makes a striking effect along avenues, driveways or as a single specimen in the home grounds, under which the entire family will enjoy gathering and eating the rich, nutritious nuts.—JOHN G. MAYO.

A PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR GASOLENE.

There is one substitute for gasolene for power purposes that has been tested and found successful. It is cheap and can be made at small expense on any farm from waste material. Farmers can make their own fuel for power at trifling expense. This fuel will run engines for milking cows, separating cream, churning and it will therefore make the cost of milk and butter less to the consumer.

Engines operated by this fuel will fill silos, pump water, saw wood, run the thresher and furnish power for electric lights, run trucks of fruits and vegetables to market, haul the fertilizer home from the railway station and run the farmer's automobile.

Farmers can produce sufficient of this material, that is safe, clean and easy to transport, so it can be supplied to city people at a price that would make it in great demand.

It may seem strange to the reader that there being no patent on the process of producing the material farmers do not get busy at it.

The farmer cannot produce because the laws will not permit him to do so.

The fuel is alcohol. Almost every farm produces an abundance of waste material from which alcohol can be made. A small apparatus for making alcohol can be manufactured and sold for $50 to $100 at the present high cost of production. The alcohol can be denaturized cheaply in several ways, any one or more of which could be prescribed by law, and this alcohol would run quite as large and powerful engines as are operated by gasolene now.

For some reason best known to themselves our politicians, who are the lawmakers, do not seem to want to tackle the subject, and the farmers of the country are asking. Why?

It is not be to supposed that alcohol can be used in a gasolene engine. It would be quite as reasonable to attempt to run a steam engine with gasolene. Gasolene engines, however, have been made to run temporarily with alcohol.

When alcohol can be had at a low price manufacturers will not be long in supplying good alcohol engines for every conceivable purpose.

CASTOR BEANS FOR OIL.

The price set for castor beans by the Government is $4.50 a bushel. The bulk of the crop has been produced in the Southern States and is a dollar a bushel higher than the original price. Castor beans can be raised in many Northern States, particularly in New York and New Jersey. It will be well to try growing this crop in a small way in the North, and if it is profitable then successful growers can go at it on a large scale.

WINTER STORES FOR BEES.

The quality of the stores with which the bees enter winter is as important as the quantity of stores. In general, honeys from mixed sources and dark honeys, except buckwheat, are not desirable for wintering bees. Now is the time to make a special examination of all colonies to determine the quality and the quantity of stores present. Good honey for wintering bees should be liquid and quite bright and transparent. Candied honey betrays the probable presence of honey dew, which is wholly unsuitable as a winter food. The objectionable part of honey dew is the gum or dextrin which it contains. The bees cannot digest dextrin, and it collects in their intestines and brings about a condition known as dysentery. Granulated sugar is free from gums and is perfectly digested.

From the time that honey gathering ceases in the autumn till it begins again in the spring an average colony will consume forty-five pounds of stores. The bees ought to enter winter with this quantity in easy reach. If the keeper prefers, he may supply only half of this amount in the fall if he is going to winter in the cellar, and two-thirds this amount if he is going to winter outdoors. Then the balance of the forty-five pounds should be given in the spring after the bees fly. Beekeepers who need sugar for feeding and cannot get it locally should write to the local Federal Food Administration, stating how many colonies are to be fed, together with the minimum amount required, which ought not to exceed ten to fifteen pounds a colony.—*B. A. McDonald, Connecticut.*

SWISS CHARD.

A letter received recently from David Burpee contains information of general interest. As it is not personal the following is quoted:

"The sales of Chinese cabbage seed certainly have been booming and I believe this vegetable is about to become very popular in this country.

"I will tell you a green I think should be far more popular than Chinese cabbage, and that is Swiss chard. Our sales of this seed have increased steadily for several years.

"I believe if I could plant only ten feet of a row of a single vegetable in my own garden it would be Lucullus Swiss chard.

"I have had considerable fun having this vegetable cooked up in spinach style, with the ribs like stewed celery. Then my guests are invited to guess what they are eating. Usually all agree that it is the best spinach they have ever tasted and that it is extraordinarily good stewed celery!"

Swiss chard is really a foliage beet. Instead of forming solid, tuberous roots the strength of the plant is devoted to the development of stalks and leaves. The leafy portion is cooked like spinach, the stalks served like asparagus or stewed celery.

The seeds should be sown as early in the spring as the garden can be made ready in rows two feet apart. Sprinkle three or four seeds to every inch of the row, covering the seeds about a quarter of an inch. Firm the soil well over the seeds, and there is no more convenient way to do this than with the foot.

When the plants are three or four inches high thin them out so they will stand two inches apart. A week or so later thin again so the plants will stand four inches apart. The plants that are removed can be used for greens. Continue thinning every week or so until the plants finally stand a foot apart in the row.

Bees need proper protecton in winter. Farmers Bulletin 1012, United States Department of Agriculture, gives full directions, and now is the time to attend to this important matter.

WHEN TO CUT CATTAILS.

The cattail flag, common everywhere in marshy land, is useful for decorating, and generally they are cut in the autumn, but the fluffing of the heads destroys their beauty. If the stalks are cut in the summer as soon as the spikes turn brown they will generally retain their beauty throughout the winter.

EGG PROFITS DEPEND ON FEED COST.

Food represents about 60 per cent. of the cost of keeping hens, according to the poultry authorities of the State College of Agriculture at Ithaca. Buy the feed, therefore, at the lowest wholesale price, and fit the ration to the cheapest feeds in so far as is practicable. Further, it is well to raise on the farm as much of the feed as can be produced economically, and thus not only save the dealer's profit but transportation as well, advises the college.

Because of the mounting cost of chicken feeds, only by careful management of the flocks can the poultry be made to pay. It is estimated that if hens this year produce an average of only 108 eggs each they will merely pay the cost of their keep. This is based on the following facts:

In 1914-15 a flock of 2,000 Leghorn hens on a farm in this State averaged 108 eggs each. These eggs with the surplus stock and manure paid the feed bills and all other expenses and left a net profit of five cents a dozen, or 45 cents a hen a year. During 1916-17, however, the costs of feeds increased 72 per cent., while No. 1 white eggs in the New York market increased in price only 42 per cent. With this increase in cost the flock referred to would have shown no profit.

The flocks must be culled constantly and only the best layers retained. Feed is too expensive to waste on non-producers.

Sell slacker hens and buy War Savings Stamps.

To Keep Chickens at Home.

A yard surrounded by a five foot fence will under most conditions keep chickens at home. If the hens show a tendency to fly over such a fence the flight feathers of one wing should be clipped. A fence made of woven wire is preferable to a fence made of board or other material. A board should not be used at the top of a wire fence, as this gives the hens a visible place to alight and tends to teach them to fly over. The larger the yard which can be provided the more contented the hens will be. It not only gives them greater opportunity to exercise but often makes it possible to maintain a sod on the yard, which is advisable.